

REMARKS

Applicants have received and carefully reviewed the Office Action mailed December 12, 2007. Claims 56-110 are pending with claims 74-86 and 107-110 withdrawn in this amendment. Reconsideration and allowance of the pending claims are respectfully requested.

Inventorship and Corrected Filing Receipt

A request to correct inventorship under 37 C.F.R. §1.48(c) was filed on January 19, 2006. With that filing, Applicants additionally requested the issuance of a corrected filing receipt reflecting the change of inventorship. Applicants have not yet received an indication that the inventorship has been corrected, and have not yet received a corrected filing receipt reflecting the change of inventorship. Applicants respectfully request that these be issued in due course.

Information Disclosure Statement

An initialed copy of the 1449 submitted with the IDS filed March 5, 2004 has not been received. Applicants respectfully request the Examiner consider the cited references and provide a copy of the initialed 1449 with the next Office Action.

Restriction Requirement

Claims 56-110 are restricted into three groups. Applicants hereby elect Group I, claims 56-73 and 87-106, without traverse.

Reconsideration and reexamination are respectfully requested. It is submitted that, in light of the above remarks, all pending claims are now in condition for allowance. If a telephone interview would be of assistance, please contact the undersigned attorney.

Respectfully submitted,
GENE P. DIPOTO

By his Attorney,

Date: January 14, 2008



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